

2028 NOV -6 PM 12: 36

620 Pheasant Ridge Drive, Chubbuck ID 83202

(208)904-4888

November 3, 2020

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Case No. FBL-T-20-01

**Dear Commissioners:** 

I apologize for missing the scheduled hearing before the Commission on October 20<sup>th</sup>. I received the notice sent to Molly Thorpe (a former employee) regarding a hearing scheduled for Optix Media LLC., but that business was sold to Direct Communications in October 2017. Today, I received the notice sent to Michael Tague (our telecom consultant in Louisville Kentucky) regarding the hearing for Fiber Broadband LLC. I sincerely apologize for missing the hearing. I will update our contact information with the Public Utilities Commission, so this does not happen again.

The Commission issued Fiber Broadband CPCN No. 526 in August 2018 and we have been actively building a network in Southeast Idaho since. We have retained the services of Michael Tague with American CLEC to complete an interconnect agreement with CenturyLink which will allow us to offer local exchange services. The application will be filed within 10 business days. We have identified several hundred active VOIP subscribers on our network that are currently using a third-party provider for their voice services and we plan to target these customers with a voice offering through Tru Fiber to bring these customers in-house on our local exchange platform. We have offered business and residential voice services in the past and we believe a voice platform installed on our network, offered as a value-add product, will be successful. We believe adding voice services will add new revenue streams and assist with customer retention.

I am sure you are wondering, why the delay in offering local exchange services? In the second quarter of 2019, we received a compelling offer from an Idaho ILEC to buy Fiber Broadband LLC, dba Tru Fiber, by the end of 2019. The closing date of this transaction was subsequently moved back to May 31 2020, but the negotiations fell through when key issues could not be settled. We have not allocated proper resources to our voice services since May, but we fully understand our obligation to offer local exchange services as a condition of our CPCN and we intend to fully comply with the Commission.

I ask the Commission to give us a 90-day period to implement our local exchange voice services and become compliant with the Commission's order. Thank you for your consideration.

Brad McSpadden